

been an honor to work with him in pursuit of this noble goal. America's armed forces and I applaud his service. A grateful nation wishes him and his family the very best.

TRIBUTE TO THEODORE BLUM

HON. MICHAEL FERGUSON

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. FERGUSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Theodore Blum, a resident of Hillsborough, New Jersey, on his recent nomination to the National 4-H Hall of Fame.

Mr. Blum will be one of the inaugural 100 members of the National 4-H Hall of Fame, which has been created to commemorate the 100th anniversary of this world-renowned service organization.

Known by many as "Mr. 4-H," Theodore Blum served as Somerset County, New Jersey's 4-H agent from 1956 to 1984, the longest anyone has held that position since the county program began in the mid-1920s.

As county agent, Mr. Blum oversaw the construction of a 20,000-square-foot facility in Bridgewater, New Jersey, which is the largest 4-H center in the state. He initiated a program that enrolled six through eight year olds in a 4-H prep program that inspired similar programs throughout New Jersey. Mr. Blum also oversaw the growth of the county 4-H Fair to its status now as one of the largest free fairs in New Jersey, and tirelessly promoted the 4-H and their activities by distributing pamphlets to local newspaper and schools.

But most importantly, Theodore Blum helped enrollment in Somerset County 4-H programs from 500 to 2,500 members, paving the way for greater involvement by young people in their community.

Today I commend Theodore Blum, who recently has turned 75 years old, for his leadership and congratulate him on being named as one of the first one hundred members of the National 4-H Hall of Fame.

HONORING REVEREND JOE GRIZZLE

HON. J.C. WATTS, JR.

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a great American, a wonderful family man and a true servant of God: Reverend Joe Grizzle.

Reverend Grizzle has recently accomplished a great feat: celebrating 25 years in the same church, in the same town: First Free Will Baptist Church of Norman, Oklahoma—in the heart of the 4th district of Oklahoma.

And heart is what this is all about. Churchgoers at First Free Will refer to their home as the Church with a heart. Many Oklahomans have commented that Joe Grizzle has a great big heart. A heart that cares for others, a heart that cares for his wife Billie and his children Christy and Rick and their spouses Jeff and Kim and 5 beautiful grandchildren, and a heart that recently was broken but thankfully God saw fit to mend it back together again to allow

him to continue his ministry. More than that, Rev. Grizzle has a heart that cares for God. And like David, he is a man after God's own heart.

Rev. Grizzle knows what it means to teach and be obedient. He knows what it is to plant seeds that will bloom well into eternity. He knows what is done for God will last. While we debate budgets and appropriations and talk of legislation, Rev. Grizzle is doing the real work of this great nation: healing hurts, mending brokenness and putting families back together and talking about the things of God.

When it comes to keeping this nation great and strong, we need to look to our families and our churches. Especially right now, our churches have been raised for such a time as this. Rev. Grizzle is a credit to this nation and a testimony of God's grace as he celebrates 25 years of ministry at the First Free Will Baptist Church in Norman, Oklahoma.

RECOGNIZING STEW FLAHERTY

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, all of us were thrilled to watch Jill Bakken and Vonetta Flowers make history by winning a Gold Medal in the first-ever women's bobsledding competition at the Winter Olympics. But there might not have been a Gold Medal, or even a women's bobsledding event, without Stew Flaherty of Westerville, OH.

After meeting two of the U.S. athletes in a Westerville gym 7 years ago, Stew spearheaded a campaign to make the women's bobsled an Olympic sport. He organized a letter writing campaign to pressure the International Bobsled and Skeleton Federation and the International Olympic Committee to include the event in the Salt Lake City games. Along with others, Stew helped build the sport internationally by convincing other countries to create teams.

As women's coach Bill Tavares told the Columbus Dispatch, "Without Stew's support we wouldn't be here." And to quote Gold Medalist Jill Bakken, "Stew's role was huge. He was supporting us when no one else was."

Stew Flaherty's efforts show that with hard work and a never-give-up attitude, you can move mountains. Or in Stew's case, make it possible for others to win Olympic gold.

HONORING BILL JOHNSON

HON. BOB BARR

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, We in the 7th District are deeply saddened by the loss of one of our greatest friends; a man who carried the torch not only for truth and justice as an excellent lawyer, but also stood as an outstanding community volunteer.

Bill Johnson was born November 10, 1932 in Moreland, Georgia. He graduated from Moreland High School and received his B.A. from West Georgia College in 1951. After graduating Bill moved on to the University of

Georgia, where he received his juris doctorate in 1954. After serving a three-year stint in the Army, Bill continued on to a distinguished law career, operating as the Carroll County government attorney between 1969 and 1984, and then in private practice, eventually opening his own firm—Johnson, Word, and Simons, which still remains in Carroll County.

Bill was a member of numerous legal and financial organizations, including the Carroll County Bar, the Coweta Circuit Bar Association, the State Bar of Georgia, the Georgia Trial Lawyers Association, and the Association of Trial Lawyers of America. He also served as a board member for the Community Bank and the Peoples Bank of West Georgia. Bill also belonged to several philanthropic groups such as the Lions Club and the Jaycees. He was extremely active with the First Baptist Church, as well as the Masons and Shriners.

On a personal note, Bill was my friend. He enjoyed sponsoring huge annual BBQ fundraisers, and was one of my biggest and most outspoken supporters. I will dearly miss the grace, and dignity, and humor he brought to the courtroom and the political arena, and the dedication he offered up to all.

Bill left us to join his Creator in heaven on Monday, February 18, 2002, after a long illness. He is survived by his wife, Ramona Teal Johnson, his daughter Angela Lee Johnson, and his son Alton Parker Johnson II, a Carroll County Magistrate Judge. We will all miss him and his legacy of dedicated service.

MILITARY SPENDING AND PUBLIC HEALTH

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2002

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to direct my colleagues' attention to an Op-ed in the Chicago Tribune (February 17, 2002), by the highly esteemed Dr. Quentin Young, "President puts military funds ahead of those for health." As the head of Physicians for A National Health Program and the Health and Medicine Policy Research Group, Dr. Young reports on the uncertain and frightening future of a disintegrating public health system.

With a \$340 million reduction in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's expenditures not devoted to "anti-terrorism," the Bush Administration is abandoning needed support for our public health system. Dr. Young highlights how the Bush Administration has subordinated public health to military priorities, through \$57 million slash in the program for chronic disease prevention and health promotion, a \$10 million cut for infectious disease control, and a \$9 million cut for Medicaid funding.

We have made great strides in public health over the last 150 years with strong focus, and fiscal and political support. Life expectancy in our country has doubled, from 40 years to 80 years, through "...[t]he separation of sewage from drinking water, mass immunization, discovery and elimination of insect vectors of disease, improved nutrition, prenatal care, purification of the food supply, addressing ambient pollution, and diminishing workplace hazards."

But in recent decades, we have neglected critical public health needs, eroding our ability